

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198068

60

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 COME-00 ISO-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 AGR-20

/102 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:JHHAWES:MMK

APPROVED BY NEA/INS:DKUX

EB/OFPP/FPD:MPBOERNER (SUBS)

NEA/P:WWRIGHT (SUBS)

EUR/SOV:JWILKINSON (SUBS)

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R 042258Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198068

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, PFOR, IN, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIET GRAIN LOAN TO INDIA

REF: NEW DELHI 11555

TOKYO FOR AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED ON "IF ASKED"
BASIS FOR NOON BRIEFING OCT. 4. QUESTIONS NOT RAISED.

PRESS GUIDANCE (ON "IF ASKED" BASIS ONLY)

Q: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE SOVIET WHEAT LOAN TO INDIA?

A: WE DO NOT KNOW THE SPECIFICS OF THE LOAN ARRANGEMENT
AND OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THE DETAILS REMAIN TO BE
WORKED OUT BETWEEN INDIA AND THE USSR.

Q: IS ANY US WHEAT INVOLVED?

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PAGE 02 STATE 198068

A: WE DO NOT HAVE ANY PRESENT REASON TO BELIEVE THERE

IS, BUT WE ARE CHECKING FURTHER INTO THIS POINT.

Q: WHAT IMPACT MIGHT THIS HAVE ON THE WORLD MARKET?

A: THE FACT THAT THE SOVIETS ARE ABLE TO MAKE A LOAN OF THIS MAGNITUDE MAY INDICATE THAT SOVIET CROP PROSPECTS HAVE IMPROVED.

Q: DID THE SOVIET UNION CONSULT WITH THE US PRIOR TO MAKING THIS WHEAT LOAN TO INDIA?

A: WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH CONSULTATIONS. PORTER

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NNN

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